

IN THE SPECIFICATION

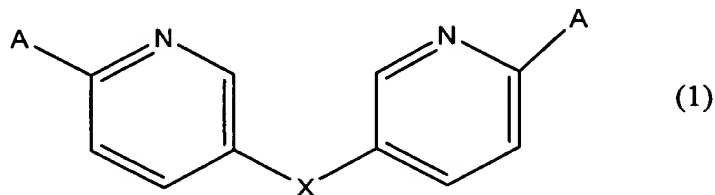
Please delete the paragraph bridging pages 4 and 5 in favor of the following new paragraph as follows:

$\beta^1$  -- In formula (1), the aromatic hydrocarbon group represented by A is preferably a group which has 6 to 14 carbon atoms, with a phenyl or naphthyl group being more preferred and a phenyl group being particularly preferred. These groups may contain 1 to 3 substituents. Suitable examples of such substituents include lower alkyl groups, lower alkoxy groups, halogeno(lower alkyl) groups, lower alkoxy(lower alkyl) groups, hydroxy(lower alkyl) groups, carboxyl group, (lower alkoxy)carbonyl groups, unsubstituted or (lower alkyl)- and/or (lower alkoxy)-substituted carbamoyl groups, lower alkanoyl groups, formyl group, lower alkanoyloxy groups, halogen atoms, hydroxyl group, cyano, (lower alkyl)thio groups, amino group, mono- or di-(lower alkyl)amino groups, (lower alkyl)sulfonylamino groups, pyrrolidinyl groups, and alkylenedioxy groups. --

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

$\beta^2$  ----1. (Amended): A bis(2-aryl-5-pyridyl) compound having formula (1) or a salt thereof;



wherein A is a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic hydrocarbon group, and X is formula (4):